

Danish holiday traditions at the Petersen House

Celebrate the holiday season at the Petersen House Museum, a restored Tempe home that features regular docent-led tours. The house, which was built by a pioneering Danish immigrant in 1892, will showcase holiday decorations inspired by Danish story Peter's Christmas by J. Krohn. It's the tale of a boy's Christmas in Denmark in the late 1800s. Each Sunday through Dec. 23, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., festivities include a reading of Peter's Christmas, refreshments, ornament decoration activities and sing-alongs.

This is the second year the Petersen House Museum and the Danish Immigrant Museum of Elkhorn, Iowa, have partnered to host the month-long event. The Petersen House Museum is located at 1414 W. Southern Ave., at the northwest corner of Southern Avenue and Priest Drive.

For more information, call 480-350-5151 or visit www.tempe.gov/petersenhouse.



0911.

Advance tickets to the Block Party alone are available at Fry's Food & Drug Stores for \$20 with a Fry's VIP card. At the gate, block party tickets are \$25. Tempe residents may also purchase up to four Block Party tickets at the discounted price of \$5 each by using the voucher on Page 2 of this issue of Tempe Today. Vouchers must be redeemed at the specified Tempe recreation centers by Saturday, Dec. 29.

More than 40 local bands and this year's headlining act, Barenaked Ladies, will entertain the Block Party crowd. A family-friendly event, the Block Party also features two fireworks displays, a parade, children's activities, motocross jumpers, carnival rides and a midnight countdown drop.

Ring in 2008 at the Insight Bowl and Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party

For the first time, the Insight Bowl and the Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party will be presented together in the Mill Avenue District on New Year's Eve – and every game ticket is good for both events at one price.

The Insight Bowl kicks off at 3:30 p.m. with a Big Ten-Big 12 matchup at Sun Devil Stadium on Monday, Dec. 31. The block party begins at 4 p.m. that day and continues until midnight.

For game tickets, which also get fans into the Block Party afterwards, visit www.insightbowl.org or call 480-350-



**DECEMBER 31, 2007 • 4:00 P.M. – MIDNIGHT
DOWNTOWN TEMPE**

LIMIT FOUR TICKETS PER HOUSEHOLD

Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party tickets at the special rate of \$5.00 per ticket. Kids 12 and under FREE with purchase of an adult admission. Enjoy stages of live entertainment featuring national and local acts.

Kids Area • Carnival • Food & Refreshments •
Fireworks • Street Performers

(proof of residency required)



Neighbors proudly create new community entrance

What began as a simple idea to transform a neighborhood's entry sign grew into an impressive show of teamwork and pride in Tempe's Corona del Sol Neighborhood Association.

Residents finished work in late October on a completely new entrance to their 197-home community on Warner Road west of McClintock Drive. Together, they spent three weekends removing old landscaping, planting shrubs and spreading 200 tons of new granite. They also hired contractors to build a new entry wall and construct a new sign.

Before rolling up their sleeves to do the actual work, residents met for months to plan the project and then raised tens of thousands of dollars to make it happen. They got help from three residents who volunteered the services of their construction companies. The City of Tempe gave the neighborhood a grant from the Maryanne Corder Neighborhood Grant Program to pay for the lettering on the sign.

Mary Wolf-Francis, a resident of the neighborhood, said the support of homeowners was key to completing the project.

"It was kismet that this all fell into place," she said. "It was fun and a great way to bring neighbors together."

Tempe neighborhoods are always encouraged to undertake improvement projects. For ideas on how to get started, call the Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234.

Orbit Jupiter to launch in January

Tempe will launch its newest, free neighborhood circulator route on Tuesday, Jan. 15. Orbit Jupiter will serve neighborhoods between Apache Boulevard and the U.S. 60, from Mill Avenue to McClintock Drive. Service will be provided every 15 minutes, seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Orbit circulator system uses small buses to connect residential areas with local destinations such as downtown Tempe, Arizona State University, shopping areas, other neighborhoods, major bus and future light rail routes, schools and multi-generational centers. Orbit is funded through the 1996 transit tax. For information call 480-350-2739 or visit www.tempe.gov/tim for route maps.

Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature

Tempe residents are invited to attend Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature, an annual day at the State Capitol for exploring opportunities, meeting new contacts and sharing goals. The day includes a neighborhood legislative program, lunch and a tour the Arizona House of Representatives and State Senate. It is Thursday, Jan. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington St.

Residents are encouraged to share stories of their neighborhoods, learn about the 2008 neighborhood legislative agenda and find out how it will impact the future of our community. To attend, contact the Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234 or by e-mailing neighborhoods@tempe.gov.

Tax Preparation Assistance

Residents who meet income requirements can get assistance filing their taxes through a volunteer-driven program in Tempe.

www.tempe.gov/tcc/taxhelp/default.htm



**DECEMBER 31, 2007 • 4:00 P.M. – MIDNIGHT
DOWNTOWN TEMPE**

TEMPE RESIDENT VOUCHER

Tempe residents are eligible to purchase up to four tickets at \$5.00 each for the Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party on December 31. You MUST bring this voucher to the following locations beginning December 3 to purchase your tickets: Escalante Recreation Center • Kiwanis Park Recreation Center • West Side Multi-Generation Center • Northside Multi-Generational Center • Pyle Adult Recreation Center • Tempe Parks and Recreation

Name

Address

City Zip Day Phone

Payment: (circle one) ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card #

Exp Date: Signature

of tickets (Limit 4) x \$5=

TOTAL \$

LIMIT FOUR TICKETS PER HOUSEHOLD

OFFER EXPIRES DECEMBER 28, 2007, 5:00 P.M. KIDS 12 AND UNDER FREE WITH ADULT ADMISSION

Tempe's Boards and Commissions

Did you know that Tempe has 31 official Boards and Commissions that advise the City Council and make decisions on everything from high-rise residential developments to the city's only cemetery? They are established by city ordinance to fulfill specific roles. These groups can only function if they have enough qualified, engaged Tempe residents who want to serve their community. The city is nearly always looking to fill vacancies on city Boards and Commissions, so visit www.tempe.gov/clerk/boards&commissions.htm to apply.

Over the next few months, Tempe Today will take a brief look at the various city Boards and Commissions and describe what they do:

Tempe Aviation Commission (TAVCO)

TAVCO is charged with: providing assistance and advice to the City Council and city departments on noise impacts from aircraft; monitoring the enforcement of an agreement with the City of Phoenix on flight procedures; and helping with studies of the impacts of Sky Harbor International Airport on Tempe neighborhoods. For more information on TAVCO or to report concerns about aircraft noise, visit www.tempe.gov/aircraftnoise.

Board of Adjustment

The Board of Adjustment has a role in development in the city. It considers case-by-case variances to the city's zoning and development code and hears appeals of zoning administrator decisions.

Building Code Advisory Board of Appeals

The primary functions of the Building Code Advisory Board of Appeals are to review the technical portions of the International Building Code, the International Residential Code and the International Energy Code, and propose adoptions or amendments. The board also hears appeals of the determinations of the city's Building Safety Division.

Development Review Commission

The Development Review Commission makes recommendations to the City Council on land use and zoning issues, and can propose amendments to the zoning and development code. The commission has decision-making authority in the design of all buildings, except single-family homes.



ASU Gammage

ASU Gammage, also known as Grady Gammage Memorial Auditorium, is Arizona State University's main performing arts venue.

Finished in 1964, the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed structure was championed by one of ASU's most influential presidents, Grady Gammage, who served the university for 27 years. Gammage dreamed of turning the small liberal arts college, at the time called Arizona State College, into a great university, and strongly advocated for a landmark auditorium to put the school on the map.

The auditorium, a plan based on Wright's unbuilt Baghdad Opera House, was the architect's last public building. Famous for such works as the Guggenheim Museum in New York City and the Falling Water residence in Pennsylvania, Wright collaborated with his friend Gammage to find a location, ultimately deciding on the area of Mill Avenue and Apache Boulevard. The building is known for its excellent acoustics and its distinctive round design, with 50 exterior columns supporting a round roof.

Wright and Gammage died before they saw the building completed. The finished, 3,017-seat auditorium was named as a tribute to Gammage and opened with a gala performance in 1964.

County helps control pet population

Feral cats

Tempe residents experiencing issues with feral cats in neighborhoods have Maricopa County resources that can help. In 2003, Maricopa County Animal Care and Control changed its approach to the problem from the "catch and kill" method to what it calls the "Trap, Neuter and Return," or "TNR" approach. The TNR program stops breeding by trapping the cats, spaying or neutering them and returning them to their habitats. The county has determined this method is more effective, less expensive, and minimizes problem behaviors in cats. For more information, visit www.maricopa.gov/Pets/FieldEnforcement/FeralCats.aspx.

Spay and neuter programs

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control's "The Big Fix" campaign is designed to help control the Valley's dog and cat population. Vouchers are available by application for families that cannot afford to spay or neuter their pets – contact 602-506-PETS or visit www.maricopa.gov/Pets/SpayNeuter/Voucher.aspx for more information. In addition, the campaign includes a "Neuter Scooter," a mobile unit that travels the Valley and provides spay and neuter procedures. For a schedule of its visits around the Valley, visit www.maricopa.gov/Pets/SpayNeuter/Scooter.aspx.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The December/January schedule for Tempe City Council meetings

December 6

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

December 13

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

January 10, 2008

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

January 24, 2008

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and the Internet at www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

City Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 31 E. Fifth St. Agendas are posted 24 hours before each meeting outside the Council Chambers and on the second floor of City Hall. Meetings are subject to change. Confirm dates and times with the City Clerk's Office, 480-350-8241 or on the Web site at www.tempe.gov/clerk.

Tempe City Council

Hugh Hallman, Mayor

Hut Hutson, Vice Mayor

P. Ben Arredondo, Councilmember

Barbara J. Carter, Councilmember

Shana Ellis, Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell, Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian, Councilmember

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To contact the Mayor and Council, call 480-350-8110.

City of Tempe
31 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ 85281
www.tempe.gov

News you can use

City partners with residents to control weeds

By city code, Tempe residents are required to remove weeds and debris from their property line to the middle of the alley. To help in this effort, the city provides weed control service in alleys two times a year, in late fall/early winter and in spring.

The city sprayed for weeds in alleys south of Southern Avenue in November, so residents are encouraged to remove the resulting dead vegetation left from that effort. Alleys in neighborhoods north of Southern Avenue will be sprayed for weeds in December. Prompt removal of dry weeds prevents them from becoming a fire hazard in alleys. For more information, call 480-350-8229.

Proper disposal of Christmas trees

When the holidays are over and decorations are tucked back into storage, Tempe residents have handy options for disposing of their Christmas trees – which should not be placed in garbage containers. Trees can be dropped off from 7 a.m. to noon on Fridays and from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays at the city's Household Products Collection Center, 1320 E. University Dr. Additionally, trees can be dropped off at the parking lot west of Kiwanis Park Recreation Center, 6111 W. All-America Way, 24 hours, seven days a week. Both sites will accept trees through Jan. 20. The city also collects trees during normal monthly collection for brush and bulky items. Visit www.tempe.gov/recycling/uncontainedschedule.pdf to find out when your neighborhood is scheduled for monthly collection. For information, call 480-350-8265.

Tempe Police offer Citizen's Police Academy

The Tempe Police Department's Citizen's Police Academy is a free, behind-the-scenes learning experience for all Valley residents. Participants learn about the various areas of the Tempe Police Department, including criminal investigations, narcotics, gangs, K-9 and mounted police. The next semester starts Feb. 19 and meets every Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. until May 13. For more information or to apply, visit www.tempe.gov/police/citizenspoliceacademy.htm.

Free cardboard boat building clinics

Get your team ready to sink or swim in the Great Cardboard Boat Regatta, part of the Ninth Annual Rotary River Rally. Tempe's Rotary Clubs are sponsoring three free boat building clinics on Jan. 12, Feb. 9 and March 1 from 10 a.m. to noon.

This fun community event raises money for children's charities. Each year, teams build boats made of corrugated cardboard and paddle a 200-yard course on Tempe Town Lake. Participants include youth groups, high school and college students, company teams, families and individuals. Not only do participants race for the fastest time, there are also special trophies for the Best Dressed, Most Spirited, Most Creative and the Titanic Award for the most spectacular sinking! The regatta will be held Saturday, April 19, at Tempe Town Lake.

For more information, visit www.rotaryriverrally.com or call 602-432-7272.

Diversity Awards to be held Jan. 21

The City of Tempe's 10th Annual "Together We're Better" Diversity Awards Brunch will be held Monday, Jan. 21, at the Marriott Buttes Resort, 2000 Westcourt Way, in Tempe. There's still time left to submit award nominations – they are due by 5 p.m. Dec. 12. To be eligible, nominees must live, work, or volunteer in Tempe and demonstrate a commitment to honoring and celebrating diversity in the Tempe community. Nominees cannot be current Tempe elected officials or Human Relations Commission members. For a nomination form or brunch ticket information, call 480-350-8979 or visit www.tempe.gov/diversity.